TABLE 1

Summary of signalment and response to dietary therapy in dogs with chronic inflammatory bowel disease

Subject	Signalment	History	BCS (9 pt)	Clinical outcome	Additional therapy	Chg BW (kg)
1	2.5 yr M Coonhound	6 mo history vomiting and diarrhea (lg and sm bowel), wt loss (6 kg)	3	Complete resolution	None	+6.6
2	9 y F Collie	3 mo history vomiting & diarrhea (sm bowel), wt loss (3 kg)	6	Complete resolution	None	+6.5
3	2 yr FS Puli	18 mo history of intermittent vomiting	4	Moderate improvement	Metoclopramide	−0.7
4	1.5 yr FS Rhod. Ridge	18 mo history vomiting & diarrhea (lg & sm bowel), wt loss (4 kg)	3	Complete resolution	None	0
5	3 Yr F German Shepherd	3 mo history diarrhea (sm bowel), wt loss (5 kg). Concurrent EPI	3	Moderate improvement	Pancreazyme, Prednisone, Metronidazole	0
6	1.5 yr MC Dalmation	6 mo history vomiting & diarrhea (lg bowel)	7	Moderate improvement	None	0

BW = body weight; BCS = body condition score, as defined in D. P. Laflamme, "Body Condition Scoring and Weight Maintenance," Proc. N. Am. Vet. Conf. Jan. 16–21, 1993, Orlando, FL, pp 290–291; D. P. Laflamme, R. D. Kealy, and D. A. Schmidt, "Estimation of Body Fat by Body Condition Score," J. Vet. Int. Med. 1994 8:154; D. P. Laflamme, G. Kuhlman, D. F. Lawler, R. D. Kealy, and D. A. Schmidt, "Obesity Management in Dogs," J. Vet. Clin. Nutr. 1994 1:59–65; EPI = exocrine pancreatic insufficiency; M = male; F = female; FS = female (spayed); MC = male, castrated.

The above examples are provided by way of illustrating the invention, and not to serve as limitations to it.

What is claimed is:

1. A process for preparing a solid hypoallergenic pet food providing a maintenance diet for pets, comprising the steps of:

(a) preparing a basal mix including a proteinaceous component comprising proteins that have been hydrolyzed under conditions such that said component has an average molecular weight below about 18 kD, at least a portion of said component but not more than about 20 percent, by weight, having a molecular weight above 20 kD, whereby said component is rendered hypoallergenic to a pet, and then

(b) agglomerating said mix with an agglomerating agent to promote efficient extrusion.

2. The process of claim **1** wherein the proteinaceous source has an average molecular weight of about 12 kD.

3. A process of claim **1** wherein the proteinaceous source is derived form soybeans.

4. A process of claim **1** wherein the proteinaceous source is derived from a source selected from the group consisting of algae, yeast, bacteria, flaxseed, corn, wheat, oats, sorghum, barley, alfalfa, rye, quinoa, peanuts, rice and potatoes.

5. A process of claim **1** wherein the proteinaceous source comprises protein hydrolyzed by a method selected from this group consisting of acidic hydrolysis, alkaline hydrolysis and enzymatic hydrolysis.

6. The process of claim **1** wherein the agglomerating agent is an edible lipid selected from the group consisting of almond oil, apricot oil, avocado oil, borage oil, black oil, canola oil, carrot oil, coconut oil, corn oil, crambe oil, currant oil, flax oil, filbert seed oil, grape seed oil, ground nut oil, hazel nut oil, hop oil, kiwi seed oil, kukui nut oil, macadamia nut oil, mango seed oil, marigold oil, mustard seed oil, neem oil, olive oil, palm oil, passionflower seed oil, peanut oil, pine nut oil, rapeseed oil, rice bran oil, safflower seed oil, sesame seed oil, soybean oil, sunflower oil, sweet almond oil, tea seed oil, walnut oil, wheat germ oil, yucca oil, purified animal fats, purified fish oil, and purified poultry fat.

7. The process of claim **6** wherein the oil is coconut oil.

8. The process of claim **7** wherein the coconut oil is agglomerated with the basal mix to the extent of about 1% to about 2%, by weight.

9. The process of claim **1** wherein the agglomerating agent comprises less than about 5%, by weight, of the hypoallergenic pet food.

10. The process of claim **1** wherein the agglomerating agent comprises less than about 2%, by weight, of the hypoallergenic pet food.

11. The process of claim **1** wherein the agglomerating agent is agglomerated with the basal mix by a method selected from the group consisting of atomization, spraying and sonication.

12. The process of claim **11** wherein the agglomerating agent is agglomerated with the basal mix by atomization of the agglomerating agent.

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